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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Land Division
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 9, 2007

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF No.: 03KD-273

KAUAI

Amend Prior Board Action of February 10, 2006 (Item D-1), Set Aside to the Division of Forestry and Wildlife for addition to Puu Ka Pele Forest Reserve at Waimea, Kauai, Tax Map Keys: (4) 1-5-1:1 and (4) 1-5-3: 9, 13, 16, 20, 22 and 27; and Game Reserve Purposes at Waimea, Kauai, Tax Map Keys: (4) 1-5-1:2 and (4) 1-5-3: 7, 8, 10, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24, and 40.

Authorize the Division of Forestry and Wildlife to conduct a public hearing to add these lands into the Forest Reserve System.

BACKGROUND:

On February 10, 2006, the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) approved recommendations on agenda item D-1, including a proposal to set aside seven parcels for addition to Puu Ka Pele Forest Reserve, and ten parcels for Game Reserve Purposes in Waimea, Kauai. BLNR approved the action to establish clear management responsibility and to effectively regulate other public uses in the area.

The executive order to add seven parcels to Puu Ka Pele Forest Reserve and to designate ten parcels as Game Reserve has not been completed yet. The Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) requests BLNR to amend its approval of February 10, 2006 by placing all seventeen of the subject parcels into Puu Ka Pele Forest Reserve for forestry purposes including public hunting (Attachment A).

REMARKS:

After additional review of the proposed land transfers and land uses, DOFAW has determined that the goals of establishing clear management responsibility and effective resource management would be best served if all of the subject parcels

were placed under a single land use designation, i.e. Forest Reserve, for the following reasons:

- Large adjoining parcels to the north are currently part of existing Forest Reserves, which would make enforcement on the added lands simpler with the entire area under one set of rules for enforcement.
- The use of Forest Reserve as a single land use designation for kuleana parcels found along the Waimea river would also provide for more flexible management opportunities – there is greater flexibility to issue multiple-use land management type permits in forest reserves than in game management areas.
- Public hunting will continue – a majority of lands comprising the subject parcels are currently managed by DOFAW as public hunting areas, which will not be effected by the amendments requested in this submittal.

DOFAW requests authorization to conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed Forest Reserve additions pursuant to HRS §183-11, Government Land for Forest Reserves and §183-12, Notice of Hearing.

CONCLUSION:

Addition of all seventeen parcels cited in the February 10, 2006 agenda item D-1 to the Puu Ka Pele Forest Reserve will unify management responsibility and administration of State lands in the area under one land use classification that continues the current uses of public hunting and adds additional flexibility for managing multiple-uses in the future. Therefore, staff requests that the Board change the land use designation for ten parcels (TMK (4) 1-5-1:2 and (4) 1-5-3: 7, 8,10, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24, and 40) from Game Reserve to Forest Reserve.

RECOMMENDATIONS: That the Board

1. Amend its prior approval of February 10, 2006, under agenda item D-1, by changing the land use designation of ten parcels as discussed above in Waimea, Kauai, from Game Reserve to Forest Reserve.
2. Authorize DOFAW to conduct a public hearing to add Tax Map Key parcels (4) 1-5-1: 1 and 2, and (4) 1-5-3: 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 27 and 40 at Waimea, Kauai to the State Forest Reserve System, under provisions of HRS §183-11, Government Land for Forest Reserves and §183-12, Notice of Hearing.

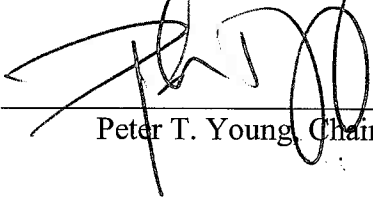
3. Authorize the Chairperson to set the date and time for a public hearing and appoint a Hearing Master.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlene E. Unolte

for Russell Y. Tsuji
Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter T. Young', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter T. Young, Chairperson

Attachment A. Staff recommended additions to Puu Ka Pele Forest Reserve.

